



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice

Public Notice Number: 200000757

Date: January 11, 2001

Comments Due: February 10, 2001

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: Application for a Department of the Army permit under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to enlarge an existing boat ramp, construct a mitigation berm and excavate from below the ordinary high water line (elev. 1326') of Clear Lake, as shown in the attached drawings.

APPLICANT: Mike Stevenson
City of Lakeport
225 Park Street
Lakeport, CA 95453

LOCATION: This project is located at the City of Lakeport Third Street Boat Launching Facility. The facility is between third street and sixth street in the City of Lakeport, in Section 24, Township 14 North, Range 10 West, at Lake County Assessor's Parcel Numbers 25-381-05, 25-382-08, 12, 13, 19, & 22, 25-383-11 & 15, California (Drawings 1 & 2).

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose is to improve capacity of, and safety to, the existing public boat ramp and establish a beach area. Public recreational opportunities will be increased and boat launching would be more convenient.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project proponent would widen the existing boat ramp by 18-feet and steepen it to a 15% slope (Drawing 4). The concrete bulkhead to the north of the existing ramp would be removed to accomplish the widening. A 140-foot by 8-foot courtesy dock would be placed in the center of the boat ramps. The boat ramp to the north of the courtesy dock would be 20-feet by 104-feet and the ramp to the south of the courtesy dock would be 30-feet by 104-feet.

Sheet piling would be placed approximately 10-feet landward of the present lakeshore, and extend along the shoreline for approximately 300-feet north of the boat ramp (Drawing 5). Using a clamshell-type excavator located landward of the sheet piling, lawn area and rip rap lakeward of the sheet piling would be removed to an elevation approximately 5-feet below the existing elevation of 1328-feet. Shoreline revetment consisting of rectangular concrete blocks tied together with polypropylene rope, would be placed adjacent to the sheet piling and extended lakeward approximately 15-feet. Littoral drift in the area is adequate for sand deposition to cover the revetment area, thereby creating beach.

The proposed mitigation for the loss of vegetation along the shoreline and fish habitat, would be located north of the fifth street boat ramp and a precast concrete block wall would be constructed above the ordinary high water mark (Drawing 7). An approximately 40-foot by 80-foot berm would be placed 20-feet lakeward of the sheet piling (Drawing 6). Approximately 400 cubic yards of fill would be placed below the ordinary high water line of Clear Lake for the construction of the mitigation area. The berm would be built from materials removed from the shoreline of this project. Clean concrete and natural rock from the site would be placed in the lake and the previously excavated fill material would be added. A geotextile membrane would be placed on the fill, and covered with rock rip rap to an elevation of approximately 4.0' Rumsey (elev 1322.26') at a 2:1 slope. Tule and other native vegetation would be planted on the berm.

AREA DESCRIPTION: Most of the area from the rear of the buildings on Main Street, east to the existing shore of Clear Lake, is fill material placed in about 1911 by a railroad company to be utilized as a railroad yard. The property was never used for the intended purpose, and is now a portion of the City of Lakeport. The area is a high-intensity use city park, with swimming and boat launching facilities. The swimming area is on the southernmost portion of the park, with two piers and day use boat mooring facilities to the north. Adjacent to the mooring facility is the proposed project area. The slopes of the existing banks within the proposed project area are heavily rip rapped and vegetated with tule, curly dock, willow, cottonwood, sedge, water primrose, and other grasses and upland vegetation. Some rip-rap contains asphalt, an unclean fill. The shoreline is used primarily for fishing while the grassy area is used for picnicking and sunbathing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: On July 25, 1997, a Public Notice (199700255) was posted for this work and comments were received by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Because of funding constraints, the applicant choose to pursue only the widdening of the boat ramp. A permit was issued for only the widdening of the boat launch. Since the issuance of that permit no work has been completed and the applicant has received funding for the full project. The only changes to the original project are the exclusion of excavation and sheet-pile wall north of fifth street, in exchange for a precast concrete wall which will be constructed above the ordinary high water mark (7.79 rumsey), as shown on the attached drawing.

The latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and its monthly supplements have been reviewed and there are no places either listed or recommended as eligible which would be affected. No further cultural resources review is warranted because all work in the permit area has been created in modern times. This activity would not affect any threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat. The District Engineer has made this determination based on information provided by the applicant and on the Corps' preliminary investigation.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on or before **February 10, 2001**. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

If additional information is required, please contact Mike Stevenson with the City of Lakeport, telephone (707)263-5614, or Mr. Justin Cutler, at the letterhead address, telephone (916) 557-5258.

Michael J. Walsh
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

Enclosures: Drawing(s)